


Calabro, Richard A.
Page 1 of 2


 3055 S. Placita Del Avestruz
 Green Valley, AZ 85614
 November 18, 2003

John M. McGee, Forest Supervisor
 U. S. Forest Service
 300 W. Congress Street
 Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Sir:

1 The following is copied from the Web site: <http://www.maestrosgroup.com/goforth.htm>. It offers a very clear and viable alternative to the seventy miles of high tension electric transmission lines from Tucson to the Mexican border proposed by Tucson Electric Power.

2 The Tucson Electric Power proposal is a blight on this beautiful landscape. At the hearings conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy on their Environmental Impact Statement, the president of the Green Valley Recreation Hiking Club, of which I am a member, along with several other members presented statements voicing their opposition to this Tucson Electric Power proposal.

From the point of view of the 486 members of the Green Valley Recreation Hiking Club, this proposal by Tucson Electric Power will adversely impact over thirty-five hikes we do in the Atascosa mountains, Tumacacori mountains, and Peck's canyon.

Would you please consider the interests of the common people whose quality of life is in the balance, and take no action on the Tucson Electric Power request?

POWER PLANT EFFORT CONTINUES
 The Maestros Group L.L.C., composed of Santa Cruz County residents, continues to make progress in promoting the development of a power plant in Santa Cruz County. According to Hugh Holub, Vice President of International Affairs, the January 4, 2002, decision by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) granting approval to Tucson Electric Power (TEP) for a 345 kv transmission line between Tucson and Nogales has no effect on their efforts. "All along we asked the question 'Why not derive the benefits of a local generating facility in Santa Cruz County?'" Holub said. "As we progress in developing the project, we continue to get confirmation that we can, and that doing so is in the best interest of the communities served."

1 From its inception, the Maestros Group has established criteria which are intended to meet or exceed environmental standards currently mandated by DOE, and ACC and Mexican counterparts. As concerned residents of Santa Cruz County themselves, and further shored up by articulated concerns at public meetings by other residents of Santa Cruz County opposing transmission lines proposed by TEP and PNM, the Maestros group continues to promote their project to bring the environmental and economic benefits to the communities served that can only be derived from local generation. Holub stated that while the issue of reliable energy to the region is complex, the benefits of reliable energy via local generation are apparent. "The environmental and economic benefits of local generation far outweigh those being offered by companies intending to supply the region with transmitted energy from a generating facility outside of Santa Cruz County," Holub said.

cont. According to Holub, a power plant in Santa Cruz County would create the following benefits:
 --Add an estimated \$100 million to the net assessed valuation of Santa Cruz County and thus reduce taxes

Comment No. 1

Section 1.2 of the Final EIS explains the roles of the Federal agencies in developing alternatives for the proposed project. Where an applicant seeks a permit for a particular business project, such as the case with TEP's proposed project, the Federal agencies generally limit their review of alternatives to those that would satisfy the applicant's proposal and decide whether that proposal is or is not worthy of receiving a permit. The Federal agencies do not review alternatives that are not within the scope of the applicant's proposal. Similarly, the agencies do not direct the applicant to alter its proposal; instead, the agencies decide whether a permit is appropriate for the proposal as the applicant envisions it. It is not for the agency to run the applicant's business and to change the applicant's proposal, but only to evaluate the environmental effects of the applicant's business proposal as offered. Accordingly, the EIS evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives, which include the full spectrum of alternatives that would satisfy the applicant's proposal.

A new power plant in Nogales is not a viable alternative to a new, second transmission line (part of TEP's proposal). Therefore, the alternative of a new power plant is not evaluated in detail in this EIS (refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis).

Comment No. 2

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 present a description of the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project. Sections 3.1.2 and 4.1.2 present a description of the existing recreational opportunities and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project.

Calabro, Richard A.

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1
cont.

on homes and businesses.

- Add an estimated 60 direct and 140 indirect jobs.
- Provide lower energy utility rates for Santa Cruz County residents and businesses.
- Attract a new gas line to the area which would improve the current natural gas supply, increase economic development opportunities in Nogales, Sonora and Nogales, Arizona, and provide clean burning fuel to heat homes in Nogales, Sonora.
- Meet or exceed air quality standards mandated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and the Arizona Corporation Commission.
- Resolve the uncertainty of the continuation of a guaranteed flow of effluent from the Nogales Wastewater Treatment Plant to maintain the flow of the Santa Cruz River and its riparian habitat.
- Not use local, regional or Arizona ground water for generation.
- Eliminate a projected \$1.7 million a year (\$42.5 million over 25 years) US subsidy for the treatment of Mexican wastewater at the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant in Rio Rico.
- Pay for paving all the dirt roads and streets in Nogales, Sonora to eliminate an existing air quality problem in the region.
- Fund improvements to the potable water supply system of Nogales, Sonora.
- Provide opportunities for Mexico and the U.S. to improve shared environmental and economic conditions.

The Maestros Group began its efforts to bring these benefits to the region in August, 2000. To date, the group has accomplished the following:

- Filed for and continue the environmental review process to obtain a Presidential Permit from DOE.
- Continue promoting bi-national negotiations for the use of treated effluent from the Nogales Wastewater Treatment Plant as coolant for the project, and a treaty to guarantee the flow.
- Preparing to option sites for the generating facility.
- Preparing to enter into the ACC's Certificate of Environmental Compliance process.
- Continue discussions with El Paseo Natural Gas regarding capacity for the proposed generating facility.
- Preparing for the submission of an energy purchase bid contract expected to be issued from the Mexican, federally-owned electric utility, Comision Federal de Electricidad, CFE, within the next six months.

Holub clarified that all companies intending to sell energy to Mexico must successfully win the CFE bid from Mexico to do so. "All our due diligence work indicates that local generation from a facility on the U.S. side of the border, has the competitive edge when it comes down to bottom line rate issues," he said.

Holub clarified that the Maestros Group is not an energy company. "We are concerned citizens who have conceived and promoted the concept and brought it this far. We intend to pass the project along to a suitable energy company for implementation if that company will adhere to our environmental and economic development criteria," said Holub.

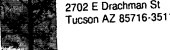
Holub indicated that the project has generated interest among energy companies confirming that what the Maestros Group is proposing is viable and doable. According to Holub, one major energy company is "keenly interested—to use their words" and five others are monitoring their progress.

Sincerely yours,



Richard A. Calabro

Caldwell, Mary and Edward
Page 1 of 1


 October 16, 2003

Sue Kozacek
 Acting Forest Supervisor
 Coronado National Forest
 300 W. Congress
 Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Ms. Kozacek,

Re: Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita - Nogales Transmission Line DEIS and needed Forest Plan Amendments.

1 The Tumacacori & Altavaca Mountains are an exceptional area for studying & enjoying birds, and other fauna & flora because of the rich biodiversity & primitive area protection. A power line would devastate the beauty & ecology of this area. Additional road building would also be devastating and a violation of the Forest Plan.

2 I urge you to deny a special use permit for the power line - and protect the beauty and ecology of this unique area and the sensitive fauna & flora. It is vital to

1 cont. protect this splendid example of southern Arizona & its natural heritage.

Sincerely yours,
 Mary Caldwell
 Edward M. Caldwell

Comment No. 1

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 present a description of the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project. Sections 3.1.2 and 4.1.2 present a description of the existing recreational opportunities and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project.

Sections 3.3 and 4.3 present a description of the existing biological resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project, including potential impacts to biodiversity, vegetation, birds, and other wildlife.

Sections 3.12 and 4.12 present a description of the existing roads and analyze the potential impacts from construction of new roads for the proposed project. Any authorization issued to implement the proposed project on the Coronado National Forest would contain terms and conditions to ensure road barrier effectiveness and maintenance, as appropriate. Based on these terms and conditions, the proposed project would not violate the Forest Plan.

Comment No. 2

The Federal agencies note the commentor's opinion that USFS should deny authorization for the proposed project.

Campbell, Nancy
Page 1 of 1

From: Nancy Campbell [SMTP:azrealty@earthlink.net]
To: Pell, Jerry
Cc:
Subject: new Tep transmission line
Sent: 8/30/2003 9:14 AM **Importance:** Normal

1 | I was looking at the proposed route, and wondered why it could not be constructed in/near the Santa Cruz river. Thank you for allowing this comment.

Comment No. 1

The construction of the proposed project in or near the Santa Cruz River would result in erosion, sedimentation and floodplain impacts. Because of these potential adverse environmental impacts, construction of the transmission line entirely within or near the Santa Cruz River is not a reasonable alternative and is not evaluated in the EIS.

Campbell, William
Page 1 of 2

Comment No. 1

The nearest corridor to the Santa Cruz River is the Central Corridor, which is approximately 0.5 mi (0.8 km) from the Santa Cruz River. The Santa Cruz River would not be crossed by any of the three proposed corridors, and none of the corridors are in or near the Santa Cruz River.

William Campbell
billcampbell81@hotmail.com
520 743 7182
3690 W. Placita Rancho Saguario
Tucson, AZ 85745
United States

No Draft of full EIS [paper] + CD-ROM
No Draft of EIS Summary [paper] + CD-ROM
No Draft of full EIS on CD-ROM [no paper]

1 I was looking at the proposed route, and wondered why it was put in/near the Santa Cruz river. Thank you for allowing this comment

Carter, Frances C.
Page 1 of 1

Frances C. Carter
1801 S. Abrego Green Valley, Arizona 85614
Phone 602-648-1959
(520)

Oct. 3, 2003

Dr. Jerry Pell
Office of Fossil Energy
U.S. Dept. of Energy

Dear Dr. Pell:

1 This letter is to register the strongest possible objection to the ill-conceived proposal to construct a 745,000 volt power line through one of the few - and fast disappearing - unspoiled areas in southern Arizona.

2 To trash this beautiful and pristine part of the Coronado National Forest with a huge, ugly power line would be a tragedy from which this outstanding area would never recover.

3 It would be a serious loss to our Green Valley Hiking Club with almost 500 members and where I have been a leader for 12 years. With the rapidly increasing urban sprawl, traffic and air pollution around Tucson, we turn more and more to the National Forest for our hikes and this area in particular.

4 Connecting us to a Mexican grid would seem a lot more risky than the one that failed on August 14 in the Northeast.

If more power is needed, build a power plant in or near Nogales, save the expense of a long line of gigantic, ugly poles and spare our deteriorating environment.

Another possibility would be a smaller 115 volt line along an already ~~existing~~ existing utility corridor.

Sincerely,

Frances C. Carter
(Mrs. David A. Carter)

Comment No. 1

The Federal agencies note the commentor's opposition to the proposed project.

Comment No. 2

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 present a description of the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project. Sections 3.1.2 and 4.1.2 present a description of the existing recreational opportunities and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project, including impacts to hiking within the Coronado National Forest.

The residential, industrial, and roadway development aspects of urban sprawl, and the associated impacts cited by the commentor, are addressed in Chapter 5, Cumulative Impacts.

Comment No. 3

As part of DOE's decisionmaking process on whether to grant a Presidential Permit for the proposed project, DOE will determine whether the proposed project will adversely impact the reliability of the U.S. electric system. Also, before authorizing exports to Mexico over the proposed 345-kV facilities, DOE must ensure that the export will not impair sufficiency of supply within the United States and will not impede, or tend to impede, the coordinated use of the regional transmission system.

Comment No. 4

A new power plant in Nogales is not a viable alternative to a new, second transmission line (part of TEP's proposal). Therefore, the alternative of a new power plant is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. Likewise, a smaller transmission line in lieu of the proposed 345-kV line would not meet the international interconnection aspect of TEP's proposal, and therefore is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. (Refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis).

Cellarius, Doris
Page 1 of 2

Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission line DEIS

From: Doris Cellarius [SMTP:Doris@Cellarius.net]
To: Pell, Jerry
Cc:

Subject: Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission line DEIS
Sent: 10/13/2003 5:11 PM
Importance: Normal

Dr. Jerry Pell
Office of Fossil Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington D.C. 20585

Comments on "Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission line DEIS"

1 | I am a new resident of Arizona. I have not visited the area proposed for the powerline under discussion, but I have read about it and hope to visit it soon. I do not support the proposed routes because such a power line, and the associated roads and maintenance, will be unnecessarily damaging to this region.

Comment No. 1

Chapter 4 analyzes the potential environmental impacts of construction and operation of the proposed project.

Comment No. 2

Section 1.2 of the Final EIS explains the roles of the Federal agencies in developing alternatives for the proposed project. Where an applicant seeks a permit for a particular business project, such as the case with TEP's proposed project, the Federal agencies generally limit their review of alternatives to those that would satisfy the applicant's proposal and decide whether that proposal is or is not worthy of receiving a permit. The Federal agencies do not review alternatives that are not within the scope of the applicant's proposal. Similarly, the agencies do not direct the applicant to alter its proposal; instead, the agencies decide whether a permit is appropriate for the proposal as the applicant envisions it. It is not for the agency to run the applicant's business and to change the applicant's proposal, but only to evaluate the environmental effects of the applicant's business proposal as offered. Accordingly, the EIS evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives, which include the full spectrum of alternatives that would satisfy the applicant's proposal.

A new power plant in Nogales is not a viable alternative to a new, second transmission line (part of TEP's proposal). Therefore, the alternative of a new power plant is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. Likewise, a smaller transmission line in lieu of the proposed 345-kV line would not meet the international interconnection aspect of TEP's proposal, and therefore is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. (Refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis.)

Cellarius, Doris

Page 2 of 2

2 | Why wasn't a lower capacity line considered? It would be cheaper, could more easily be buried in sensitive areas near homes, and would serve the long-term needs of Santa Cruz County. Please withdraw the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and issue an assessment that properly analyzes real solutions, power needs in Santa Cruz County that include a smaller powerline and/or locally run power plant.

Sincerely,

Doris Cellarius
621 Park Avenue
Prescott, AZ 86303-4044

Clarke, Laurel W.
Page 1 of 1

Laurel Clarke
9170 E. Bell Cactus Ln
Tucson, AZ 85715

Dr. Jerry Pell
Office of Fossil Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dr. Pell,

I am writing in regard to the Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission Line DEIS.

1 It is disheartening to imagine that this project is considered to be the preferred alternative when it would mean the degradation of one of Arizona's most spectacular landscapes. The Tumacacori Highlands are an amazing landscape. They are one of the largest unprotected roadless areas in the Southwest. Placing the proposed power line in the highlands would be an expensive undertaking, much more so than placing a smaller less obtrusive power line in an already developed area.

2 I do not support the "preferred alternative" because it does not serve Santa Cruz County's interest as originally intended under ACC order 62011. It is an unnecessary economic, environmental and cultural burden on Southern Arizona.

3 Please consider issuing a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement that properly analyzes real solutions to power needs in Santa Cruz County that include a smaller power line or a locally run plant.

Sincerely yours,

Laurel W. Clarke
Laurel Clarke

Comment No. 1

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 present a description of the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project, including potential impacts to the Tumacacori Mountains and the Tumacacori EMA of the Coronado National Forest.

Sections 3.1, Land Use, and 3.12, Transportation, discuss the IRAs within the Coronado National Forest. Sections 4.1, Land Use, and 4.12, Transportation, evaluate potential impacts to IRAs.

A smaller transmission line in lieu of the proposed 345-kV line would not meet the international interconnection aspect of TEP's proposal, and therefore is not evaluated in detail in this EIS (refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis). The commentor's suggestion of building a line adjacent to the existing transmission line in the I-19 corridor was considered but eliminated from further analysis in the EIS (see Section 2.1.5 of the Draft EIS discusses the elimination of the Eastern Corridor and the I-19 Corridor, both similar to the commentor's suggestion).

Comment No. 2

ACC Decision No. 62011 (ACC 1999) mandates the construction of a second transmission line to serve customers in Santa Cruz County, and does not reference the export of electricity to Mexico. However, TEP's stated purpose and need for the proposed project is a dual purpose and need of benefiting both southern Arizona and Mexico.

Comment No. 3

Section 1.2 of the Final EIS explains the roles of the Federal agencies in developing alternatives for the proposed project. Where an applicant seeks a permit for a particular business project, such as the case with TEP's proposed project, the Federal agencies generally limit their review of alternatives to those that would satisfy the applicant's proposal

Comment No. 3 (continued)

and decide whether that proposal is or is not worthy of receiving a permit. The Federal agencies do not review alternatives that are not within the scope of the applicant's proposal. Similarly, the agencies do not direct the applicant to alter its proposal; instead, the agencies decide whether a permit is appropriate for the proposal as the applicant envisions it. It is not for the agency to run the applicant's business and to change the applicant's proposal, but only to evaluate the environmental effects of the applicant's business proposal as offered. Accordingly, the EIS evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives, which include the full spectrum of alternatives that would satisfy the applicant's proposal.

A new power plant in Nogales is not a viable alternative to a new, second transmission line (part of TEP's proposal). Therefore, the alternative of a new power plant is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. Likewise, a smaller transmission line in lieu of the proposed 345-kV line would not meet the international interconnection aspect of TEP's proposal, and therefore is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. (Refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis.)

Clarke, Laurel W.
Page 1 of 1

Laurel Clarke
9170 E. Bell Cactus Ln
Tucson, AZ 85715

Sue Kozacek
Acting Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Ms Kozacek,

I am writing in regard to the Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission Line DEIS and the needed Forest Plan Amendment.

1 It is disheartening to imagine this power line being placed in one of the most beautiful and largest roadless landscapes in the Southwest. The Tumacacori and Atascosa Mountains are an exceptional area of beauty, full of natural wonders which I love to escape to and enjoy bird watching, hiking and tracking. Building the proposed powerline here would negatively affect the beauty and be harmful to the environment disrupting habitat for many species of plant and animal.

2 The TEP proposal would build over 20 new mile of road in an area where road density is already above acceptable limits set forth in the current forest plan. I urge you to deny the special use permit for the "preferred route" because it is not compatible with the
3 current uses of the affected area. Please help us to conserve one of the few remaining wild areas, a place that is such an important aspect of our southern Arizona natural heritage.

Sincerely Yours,
Laurel W. Clarke
Laurel Clarke

Comment No. 1

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 present a description of the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project, including potential impacts to the Tumacacori Mountains and the Tumacacori EMA of the Coronado National Forest.

Sections 3.1.2 and 4.1.2 present a description of the existing recreational opportunities and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project. Sections 3.3 and 4.3 present a description of the existing biological resources and analyze the potential impacts to these resources.

Comment No. 2

The Western Corridor would require construction of approximately 20 mi (32 km) of temporary new roads for construction on the Coronado National Forest, and the Central and Crossover Corridors would require fewer roads, and unnecessary project roads would be closed following construction (see Section 4.12, Transportation). The Tumacacori EMA of the Coronado National Forest in and of itself does not exceed road density limits set forth in the Forest Plan. Road density limits set forth in the Forest Plan are for the Forest as a whole, not for individual land units or EMAs within the Coronado National Forest. TEP would close 1.0 mi (1.6 km) of existing classified road for every 1.0 mi (1.6 km) of proposed road to be used in the operation or long-term maintenance of the proposed project, such that road density on the Coronado National Forest would not be affected.

Comment No. 3

Sections 3.1 and 4.1 present a description of the existing land use and analyze the potential impacts to land use from the proposed project.

Coffee, George
Page 1 of 1

October 10, 2003

Dr. Jerry Pell
Office of Fossil Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

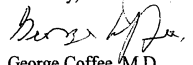
Dear Dr. Pell:

Re: Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission line DEIS.

1 I wish to urge you to consider issuing a Supplemental Draft Environmental
Impact Statement including a thorough analysis of the most meaningful
solutions to the power needs in Santa Cruz County. After familiarizing
myself with elements involved in this matter, it seems to me such an analysis
should include a smaller powerline or a locally run power plant. The current
proposal does not seem to correspond to the actual needs of the county. The
2 proposal looks very expensive. As compared with a smaller, more directly
applied system it seems in a number of ways less practical in serving Santa
Cruz County. And it would be destined to have a serious negative impact on
natural values which make Sotheastern Arizona an extraordinary gem of its
type in the world. I live in Green Valley a good part of the year and I assure
you my concern for the areas involved is very deep, as I bird, hike, and do
nature study in this locale.

I respectfully urge you to issue a supplemental draft taking into account the
concerns expressed above.

Sincerely,



George Coffee, M.D.
1615 South La Canada
Green Valley, AZ 85614

Comment No. 1

Section 1.2 of the Final EIS explains the roles of the Federal agencies in developing alternatives for the proposed project. Where an applicant seeks a permit for a particular business project, such as the case with TEP's proposed project, the Federal agencies generally limit their review of alternatives to those that would satisfy the applicant's proposal and decide whether that proposal is or is not worthy of receiving a permit. The Federal agencies do not review alternatives that are not within the scope of the applicant's proposal. Similarly, the agencies do not direct the applicant to alter its proposal; instead, the agencies decide whether a permit is appropriate for the proposal as the applicant envisions it. It is not for the agency to run the applicant's business and to change the applicant's proposal, but only to evaluate the environmental effects of the applicant's business proposal as offered. Accordingly, the EIS evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives, which include the full spectrum of alternatives that would satisfy the applicant's proposal.

A new power plant in Nogales is not a viable alternative to a new, second transmission line (part of TEP's proposal). Therefore, the alternative of a new power plant is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. Likewise, a smaller transmission line in lieu of the proposed 345-kV line would not meet the international interconnection aspect of TEP's proposal, and therefore is not evaluated in detail in this EIS. (Refer also to Section 2.1.5, Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Analysis.)

Comment No. 2

Sections 3.1 and 4.1 present a description of the existing land use and analyze the potential impacts to these resources from the proposed project, including potential impacts to recreational opportunities (see Sections 3.1.2 and 4.1.2)

Coffee, George
Page 1 of 1

October 10, 2003

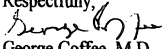
Sue Kozak
Acting Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
300 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

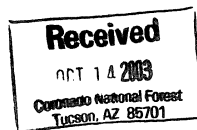
Dear Ms. Kozak:

Re: Tucson Electric Power Sahuarita-Nogales Transmission line DEIS and
needed Forest Plan Amendments.

- 1 I urge you to deny the special use permit for the Preferred Route. In looking
into the matter I have become aware of the adverse impacts which the line
would create upon the natural values held within the area. Southeast Arizona
exists as a natural gem unique in the world. It seems unacceptable to degrade
2 in this way the ecologic dynamics and scenic features of the area involved in
the proposal. With intrusions in other areas of Southeastern Arizona we
watch deterioration in what we recognize as a gem on the planet.

I am sure you have been considering these elements, and I give my voice in
support.

Respectfully,

George Coffee, M.D.
1615 S. Lacanada
Green Valley AZ 85614



Comment No. 1

The Federal agencies note the commentator's opinion that USFS should deny the authorization for the Western Corridor.

Comment No. 2

Chapters 3 and 4 present a description of the affected environment and analyze potential impacts to the resources from the proposed project, including analysis of biological resources (Sections 3.3 and 4.3) and visual resources (Sections 3.2 and 4.2).

Colbert, Michael
Page 1 of 1

From: michael colbert [SMTP:mrcolbert2003@yahoo.com]
To: Pell, Jerry
Cc:

Subject: Power lines
Sent: 10/13/2003 5:10 PM
Importance: Normal

Please Stop the proposed powerline from Tucson to Nogales.
1 It is overkill-and there are more benign ways to do this.
AESTHETICS count for a lot!!!! Please don't let this
happen!!!! thank you,

Mike Colbert
PO Box 566
Ft. Apache, Az. 85926

Comment No. 1

TEP's purpose and need for the proposed project, as provided to DOE in TEP's Presidential Permit Application, is "...to construct a double-circuit 345 kV, alternating current transmission line to interconnect the existing electrical systems of TEP and Citizens Utilities ("Citizens") in Nogales, Arizona, with a further interconnection to be made from Nogales, Arizona to the CFE transmission system...." In an applicant-initiated process, such as TEP's proposed project, the range of reasonable alternatives analyzed in detail in the EIS is directly related to the applicant's purpose and need.

Sections 3.2 and 4.2 discuss the existing visual resources and analyze the potential impacts to the resources from the proposed project.

Collazo, David E.
Page 1 of 1

From: Dave Collazo [SMTP:gunfella@earthlink.net]
To: Pell, Jerry
Cc:

Subject: proposed power line
Sent: 10/8/2003 10:43 PM
Importance: Normal

I am opposed to the western route for the proposed power line because of the great, irreverable damage to the wilderness. Sycamore Canyon is home to unique animal and plant species.

1 The scenic value of this spectacular area will be seriously degraded. There are existing power lines running up the Santa Cruz Valley. I would rather see the power lines concentrated up this corridor. It seems that it would be more efficient and less expensive to build along already developed corridors than to bulldoze undeveloped, pristine wilderness.

David E. Collazo
Tucson, Arizona

Comment No. 1

Section 4.3.2 discusses potential impacts to wildlife in the vicinity of the Western Corridor (which includes Sycamore Canyon) from the proposed project, based on the affected environment in Section 3.3, Biological Resources. Section 4.2.1 discusses of the potential impacts to visual resources in the vicinity of the Western Corridor from the proposed project, based on the affected environment in Section 3.2, Visual Resources.

Due to visual impacts through densely populated areas, and the potential impacts to cultural resources, the I-19 Corridor was eliminated from further analysis as viable action alternative (see Section 2.1.5).

Collins, Fred
Page 1 of 2

Name: Fred Collins
Title: VP retired
Organization: ALCOA Conductor Products Co.
Email: papcollins@aol.com
Phone number: 520-648-0727
Address1: 2481 S Avenida Loma Linda
Address2:
City: Green Valley
State: AZ
Zip: 85614
Country: USA

Requests:
No - Draft of full EIS [paper] + CD-ROM
No - Draft of EIS Summary [paper] + CD-ROM
No - Draft of full EIS on CD-ROM [no paper]

(comments continue on next page)

Comment No. 1

The maximum level at which the proposed 345-kV transmission line would be operated is 500 MW (refer to the response to Border Power Plant Working Group, Comment 2). If TEP wanted to operate the proposed 345-kV transmission line above 500 MW, TEP would have to apply to DOE for an amendment to their Presidential Permit, and DOE would have to perform additional analysis required by NEPA.

Comment No. 2

The type of conductor that would be used for the proposed transmission line has not yet been chosen. The selection of the conductor would be part of the detailed engineering and design after the final siting of the corridor.

Comment No. 3

The Federal agencies agree that there are negative environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of a power plant. However, the proposed action in this EIS does not require construction and operation of a new power plant.

Comment No. 4

Sections 3.10 and 4.10 discuss the existing EMF and analyze the potential EMF impacts from the proposed project.

Comment No. 5

The Federal agencies note the commentator's support for the proposed project.

Collins, Fred

Page 2 of 2

Comments:

1 | What size and construction of aluminum conductors are
specified? I would like to calculate whether McGruder's
estimate of an ultimate capacity of 2000 megawatts is
reasonable. I seriously doubt that any utility would commit
that kind of load to a two-circuit 345KV line, even if it did
not sag too far with that kind of load. Years ago ALCOA
2 | made a product called Shadowline conductor. The surface
was grit-blasted at the factory to eliminate the shiny
reflective surface typical of new conductors. I do not know
whether it is still offered by any supplier, but it is very
effective in reducing the visual impact of new power lines,
especially in areas like the Coronado National Forest. Has
TEP considered the use of such conductors? The proponents
of building a power plant in Nogales have yet to show that
3 | the use of locally obtained cooling water won't dry up what
little is left of the Santa Cruz River. Cattle and crops grow
successfully under 765KV lines in upstate New York and in
the Midwest. Electromagnetic effects from 345KV lines
4 | have never been shown to be harmful, at least to my
5 | knowledge. Let's get on with this project!